

THE
R A R I T I E S
OF
R U S S I A
WITH THE
Interest of England

In point of Trade with that Country :

Which occasioned the magnificent Entertainments of the
R U S S I A N A M B A S S A D O U R S ;

1. By Queen Elizabeth, Anno 1589.
2. By King James, November 5. 1617.
3. By King Charles the Second, 1662.

Which are here described :

By WILL. WHITE Merchant.

L O N D O N,
Printed for the Author. 1662.

THE
RAILS
OF
RUSSIA
WITH THE
Interest of England

Information of Trade with this Country:
Which contained the magnificent Engravings of the
RUSSIAN RAILROADS.

By Captain R. S. Sneyd, 1862.
By King James, 1861.
By King Charles, 1862.

Which are here described.

By J. L. W. M. M. M.

LONDON
Printed for the Author. 1862.

(O)

blow eth has : d'not more this, to agn'bol-ano eth-wond
This is more bow'd than I have seen, I have seen more of
the world



THE
R A R I T I E S
OF

R U S S I A and M U S C O V I A.

THe Commerce and correspondencie of humane nature *subsists* by this : *Viz.* that each proper Countrey hath a want which another Countreys Commodity may supply ; and a supply which another Countrey may want : so that one part may not say to the other, *I have no need of thee* : Fruitful Europe may not say to barren America, *I have no need of thee* ; nor rich America to poorer Asia, *I have no need of thee* : the fertile South cannot say to the North, *I have no need of thee* ; nor the North to the South, *I have no need of thee* : that there should be no Schisme in the great body of the world, but that the severall Parts of it should have the same care one for another : And seeing mankind is but one family, (for God hath made of one blood all Nations of the earth, for to dwell upon the face of the earth, and hath determined the times before appointed, and the place of their habitation) the World a great house, sundry Countreys severall rooms, it is fit that we who are in the Parlour should

(3)
know the out-lodgings of this great house; and the world be acquainted with it self, before it be dissolved from it self at the day of judgment. That part of the world called *Russia* or *Muscovia* (which hath thought it its *Interest* to court us with an *Ambassadour civilly*, whom we have thought our *interest* to entertain *honourably*) hath these peculiar Rarities and Commodities.

CHAP. I.

Of the Soyle and Climate.

Russia or Muscovia, formerly called *Sarmatia*, called so from *Russe*, in that Language to divide, because it was divided among eight Brethren and Sisters, lyeth Northward to *Lapland* and the North Ocean, Eastward and Southward towards *Tartaria*, Westward and South-Westward towards *Lithuania*, *Livonia*, and *Poland*, having thirty Shires far more large, though thinner inhabited then *England*, which are divided into four Jurisdctions, called Chelfirds, or four Ports: This Countrey is in length four thousand five hundred sixty five miles; and in breadth three thousand nine hundred and thirteen; a vast compasse if it were well peopled, that would hardly be well governed by him, or well indured by his Neighbours: Indeed the soyl being slight and sandy all over, and Northward very barren, is much of it a Desert-wood for wild Beasts, rather then an habitation for Men; only the Emperour garrisons the borders, least an Enemy presuming upon the solitude, might think to have a fair and clear footing for forreign Enemies to fasten on this Countrey, and from thence easily to invade the neighbouring Dominions

minions: (*a thin Meadow being quickly mowed*;) And moreover the *Cham Tartar* will neither himself plant Townes to dwell there, living a wild and vagrant life, nor suffer the *Kasse*, who is far off, to people those Ports; though no doubt so vast a Countrey would maintain its people, if the wildness thereof were tamed with husbandry: but these people scorning that their ground should be better civilized than themselves, never suffer it to be manured, being more willing to provide their bread with the Sword than with the Plough: but for seventeen hundred mile Northward, Westward, and Southward of *Moscho*, it is fruitful and pleasant for Pasture, Corn, Wood, Water, &c. in great plenty: this Countrey is like a piece of Cloth fine in the woof, and coarse in the lists; fruitful in the body of it, and barren in the borders. For five moneths together, *viz.* from *November* to *April*, the whole Countrey is covered with Snow a yard or two deep; and with Frost a yard thick, so cold, that if you hold a Pewter-dish in your hand, your fingers will freeze to it, and you must leave your skin behind you at parting: If you throw water up into the air, it comes down ice: if you breath, it will be so thick that it is ready to stifle you with the cold: so that it is usual for poor men to fall down in the streets and marshes; and the Beasts not enduring the weather in the Desarts, come in troops upon the Cities, and make them Desarts too: Yet towards Summer the Countrey is so fresh and flourishing, the Trees (which are for the most part Fern and Bent) so sweet and beautiful; the Flowers so various; the Meadows so green; the Birds (especially the Nightingale, which sings more lowd and artificially there then in other Countreys) so merry, that you would think Paradise were started up there on a sudden: The reason of which sudden Verdure is this, that the Snow (which keeps it warm in the Winter, cloathing it against the Frost) melting in the Spring, doth drench and soak the ground, that it

is, as I told, of a sleight and sandy mould; and then the Sun shineth so hotly upon that, that it draweth out the Hearbs & Plants in that great plenty and variety as is at once our wonder and our pleasure; the Countrey besides having the advantage of Springs, Rivers, and Lakes, which are some sixty, some eighty, some an hundred miles in length; and the Summer there is as much over-hot as the Winter is over-cold. Their Rivers are 1. *Volgha*, arising out of the root of an Alder-tree, and in two hundred miles improving an English mile in breadth. 2. *Neper*, called formerly *Boristher*, is that which divideth the Countrey from *Lithuania*, and falleth into the *Euxine* Sea. The third is *Don a Taxas* (the ancient boulder of *Europe* and *Asia*) which runneth through the *Cham Tartars* Countrey into the great Sea, the Lake called *Meotis*, by which a man may go from *Moske* to *Constantinople*. The fourth is *Dvina*, some hundred miles long, which falls Northward into the Bay of *St. Nicholas*, and hath great Alabaster Rocks on the banks towards the Sea-side; and other Rivers, the least as big as the *Thames* in bigness, and in length far bigger: The Pole at *Moscho* is 55. degrees, 10. minutes.

CHAP. II.

Of the Native Commodities.

1. **T**Heir Fruits are Apples, Pears, Plums, Cherries, and Cidern like a Muskmelon, but more sweeter and pleasant, Cucumbers, Goords, Rasps, Strawberries, and Hurtleberries, and many other Berries in Woods and Hedges.

2. Their Grain is Wheat, Rye, Barly, Oats, Pease, Buck-
way, Isnytho, a grain like Rice, which they sell at three pence
a bushel most commonly, unless rather by reason of the No-
bilities monopoly then the Earths barrenness, there happen-
eth a dearth, and then their Corn is twenty pence a bushel.

1. But the Commodities wherewith they enrich them-
selves, and pleasure other Countries, is, first Furrs of all sorts,
as Buck, Fox, Sables, Dun Fur, Mortrones, Ermines, Miniver,
Bever, Wolverin, Squirrel, whereof there is transported out
of the Countrey by the Merchants of *Turky* and Christen-
dome to the value of seven hundred thousand Rubbels.

2. The second Commodity is Honey, whereof besides an
exceeding great quantity spent in their ordinary drinks,
which is *Mead* of all sorts, and other uses, a good quantity is
carried out of the Countrey to the neighbouring parts
which have need of it: God hath not given *all Commodities*
to one, to elate it with pride, and none to other Countries,
to deject them with pensiveness, but there is some kind of
equality between the profits of Countries, to continue
Commerce and ballance Trade in some proportion.

3. The third Commodity is Wax, whereof there hath
been transported a millions worth abroad: this Wax is the
cask, where Honey is the liquor, and being yellow by Na-
ture, is by Art made white and green; for sight the clearest,
for smell the sweetest, for touch the cleanliest; useful in Law
to seal Instruments; in Physick to mollifie Sinews, ripen and
dissolve Ulcers; the ground of all Searcloaths, called so
from *Cera* Wax: Here are Lakes of Honey found in hollow
trees; and Combes eight foot long: the Heaths have the
worst Honey, and the Champion the best: the finer the
Wheat and the Wool, the poorer the Honey: the best Ho-
ney is lowest in the vessel: *The best Oyl is at top, the best
Wine in the middle, and the best Honey is in the bottome*: It
openeth

opneeth Obstructions, cleareth the Breasts of those humours that fall down from the Head, looseneth the Belly, and hath other good qualities not to be reckoned in a Winters day.

4. The fourth Commodity is Cow-hides: *Adam's* first shute was of leaves, his second of leather: It is a common observation, that when Wheat is dear Leather is cheap; and when Leather is dear, Wheat is cheap; their Losh or Buffhide is large and fair; their Bull or Cow-hide (for they have no Oxen nor Weathers) is small; there hath been transported by Merchants an hundred thousand Hides.

5. The fifth is their Meath, a drink made of Water, Honey, and other Ingredients most wholesome for Mans body: *Pollio* being an hundred yeares old, and asked by *Augustus Caesar* by what meanes especially he had so long preserved his vigour both of mind and body, answered, *Intus mulsio, foris Oleo*. By taking Meibeglin inward, and Oyl outward.

6. The sixt Commodity is Tallow, whereof they transport a great weight; their pasturage being so good; their flocks so many, and their use of Tallow so little; there hath been shipped of this commodity two millions worth to foreign parts.

7. As their Beasts fat yeilds them the fixt, so their Fish the seventh Commodity; viz. Train-oil, which they draw out of the Seale-fish, the Sturgeon, the Sterledey, the Sevengu, &c. which they take thus; before Winter they leave their Boats near the Bay of *St. Nicholas*, and at Spring they come and find the fish haunt and shoals, and so environ them and kill them by force, giving warning to all the Companies by firing a Beacon when they have discovered a haunt.

8. Their eighth Commodity is Sturgeon and other Sea-fish, caught in those Northern Seas in abundance: the little head and Swines back is the sign that these fish are in season.

9. The

9 The ninth Commodity is Flaxe and Hempe, which hath amounted to 800000. yearly, this is sold for cordage, so necessary for us, that it is a common Proverbewhen Hempe is spun, then *England* is done; when all that necessary Commodity is employed so that there is no more left for Sailes and Cordager, *England* (whose strength consists in Shipping) would be reduced to a wofull condition; and I wonder there is not more Hempe sowed among us since our Land affords so much strong and deep ground proper for the same; here is excellent Flaxe which well husbanded would find Linnen for the Rich, and living for the Poor.

10 Their tenth Commodity is Salt, their best Salt is *Stararouse* in very great quantity, where they have great store of Salt-wells about 200 miles from the Sea; at *Astracan* Salt is made naturally by the Sea water casting it up in heapes, and so it is digged down, and carried away by the Merchants; this is most essential to mans livelyhood, without which neither Sacrifice was *pleasing* to God, nor meate savory to man, it is placed on the Board with bread, to shew that they are equally necessary to mans sustinance; and it is observed that,

1 Some Countreyes have Salt without flesh within many miles, as in the South part of *Africa*;

2 Some have plenty of Flesh but no Salt to make use thereof, as in many parts of *Tartary*;

3 Some have Flesh and Salt, but the Flesh utterly incapable of seasoning as at *Nombre de Dios*;

4 Some have Flesh and Salt but the Salt so dear

B

that

that common people cannot compasse it as in *France* ;

5 Some have Flesh, caple of Salt, and Salt at an easy rate as they in *Muscovy* and we in *England*, *Fœlices bona si sua norint.*-----

10. The tenth Commodity is Tarre which they make out of their Firre Trees, in the Country of *Dunya* and *Smolexsko*, whereot much is sent abroad.

11. The leventh Commodity is Oake, when the Spies were sent into the Land of *Canaan* among other instructions given them, they had order to make enquiry whether there was Wood therein or not, this Country affordeth abundance of Wood, excellent for Shipping and other uses.

12 The twelfth Commodity is *Barley* white large plumpe and full of Flower, it is (though not so toothsome) yet as wholesome as Wheat it selfe, and was all the staffe of Bread which *Christs* Body leaned upon all his life, eating to attest his Humanity, *Barley-loaves* to evince his humiliry.

13 The next Commodity is Diamonds in blacknesse and hardnesse for short of the *Indian*, yet set with a good foile (advantaged hypocrisie passeth often for sincerity) may at the first sight deceive no unskilfull lapidary, as their lustre is lesse then Orient Diamonds, so herein they exceed them that nature hath made both their face and their dresse by whom they are pointed and polished.

14 Amber-greese so precious a Commodity as is fixed to no place in the World, as too great a treasure for any one Country to engrosse, and therefore it is only fluctuating and casually found by small parcells,
some-

sometimes in one place, sometimes in another, yet much of it is found upon the Coasts of *Muscovy*; it's by some thought to be the sperme of a Fish; by others the royling of sea water; by others a gumme growing on the sea shore, however it is very refreshing for the spirits, and Sovereign for the strengthening of the Head, besides the most fragrant scent, for stronger in consort, when compounded with other things, then when singly it selfe.

15 The fifteenth Commodity is Metall which of all sorts is found with much ado in these parts especially Iron and it's elder brother steel extracted from the same Oare, differing from it not in kind but in degree of purity as being the first running thereof, it's more hard and brittle then the Metalls of other Countreyes.

16 Fish tooth called *Ribazuba*, the powder whereof is good against poyson, which makes Beades Knives, and swords, Haftes for noble Men and Gentlemen, two foot in length, and weigh eleven or twelve pound a peice.

17 Neer *Dudia* is a soft Rock called *Slude* which cut to thin peices serveth instead of Glasse and Horne and gives a clearer light,

18 They have Fallow Deer, Roe Bucks great store their Staggs are stately Creatures, jealous and revengefull, insomuch that a Stagge unable for the present to master another, who had taken his Hind from him, waited his opportunity, till his enemy had weakened himselfe with his wantonnesse and then killed him; their Flesh must needs be good whose very Hornes are accounted Cordiall, besides there is a concave in the

³ neck of a green headed flagge, when above his *first crofting* wherein are many wormes some two inches in length, very usefull in Physick and therefore lay'd up by many discreet persons.

19. There Beasts of strange kind are the Lash, the Ollen, the wild Horfe, the Bear, the Wolvingor Wood Dog, the Lyferne, the Beaver, the Siabr, the Martron, the blacke and dun Fox, the white Bear towards the sea-coast of *Pechora*, the Gurn-state, the Miniver, their Hores and Squirells which are of the usuall colour in summer, but the one turnes white, and the other Gray in Winter, some Heathen have causlessly complained of nature as a step-mother to Mankind, because other creatures come into the World cloathed with Furies and Feathers whilest man is exposed naked to the world, I lay a causelesse charge because what the Beasts have by nature we wear by art, the Furre they wore when alive, we wear when they are dead.

20 For Birds they have diverse of the principall kind, as Hawkes, Eagles, the Ger-faulcon the flight Faulcon, the Goshawke, the Tasset, the spar-Hawke the storke, the Crane, the Teddor, the Pheasant and Patridge, and the great Owle; *Muscovy* may be called the Aviary of the World, where the wild Fowle are remarkeable for, 1 Plenty, so that some ten thousand small Birds have been caught at a draught; 2 Variery no man being able to give them their proper names, except one should get *Adames* Nomenclator of Creatures; 3 Deliciousnesse, wild Fowle being more dainty and digestable then tame of the same kind as spending their grossly humors, with their activity and constant motion in flying,

21 They

21 They have all fresh water Fish, as Pikes, the fresh water Wolves, and therefore an old pond-Pike is a dish of more state then profit to the Owners; seeing a Pikes belly is a little Fish-pond, where lesser of all sorts have been contained, although tyrants are short liv'd, yet Pikes live sixscore yeares, this Fish they say cheweth the Cud, is fine and wholesome, and the less the sweet-carps which were brought thence to *England* in King *Hen.* the 8th. time; Trouts, pleasant and wholesome Fish as whose feeding is pure and cleanly in the swiftest streames and on the hardest gravell, they are in their Perfection in *May*, and yearly decline with the Buck, Eeles which loves not the Russe as well he loves them, so true is the *Italian* Proverbe *give Eeles without wine to your enemies Pilchards*, plenty whereof are taken in these parts, persecuted to the shore by their enemies the sunny and Hawke, till in pursuance of their revenge they all become a prey to the Fisherman, their numbers are incredible, employing a number of poor people, in pulling, gutting, splitting powdering and drying them, and then with Oyle and a Lemon, they are meate for greatest Noble man amongst them, *Tenches* Fish that love ponds better then Rivers, and Pits better then either; it's pleasant in *Tasb* and is called by some the Physician or surgeon of Fish, it cures the Pike, and therefore the Pike they say spares it; and other Fish, as the Bellonga, the sturgeon, the severign, and sterledy out of the rowes of which four Fish they make great store of caveare, they have White and Red sammon, a dainty and wholesome Fish, and a double riddle in nature.

, First

First for its invisible feeding, no man alive having found any measure in the maw thereof: secondly for its strang leaping and shoorng it self out of the water an Incredible heighth and Length: and they say it increaseth from a spawn to a full grown fish, within the compasse of a year: plenty of these in their ports thoughnot in such abundance as in *Scotland*, where servants they say Indent with their masters, not to be fed there with above thrice a week --- The *Herring*, a fish though Contemprible in its self, Considerable in its company, swimming in such shoales that what the *whale* hath in bignesse the *Herring* hath in Number: yea red Herrings which in *England* are eared for sauce, to quicken the appetite, serve in these ports for food to satisfy hunger.

The last Commodity is Fustian Kerfy and other kind of Stuffles made cheifly in those Ports and thence brought hither.

CHAP. III.

There Religion.

AS for their religion for which we ought to entertaine them: Its not depraved by superstition, Idolatry, and usurpation of the Church of *Rome*: but according the poorer way of the Greek Church, they own the scriptures and the 4 first councells together with to the purer wayes of the primitive times: they are governed by one Patrion of *Chio*, and works, by 4 Arch Bishops, by threescore Bishops with there assistants, there Clergy are very ignorant and unwilling to take any paines to teach the people, but they read a Lyturgy, and administer the sacraments: there
Lyturgy

Lyturgy begins with these words, *Blesse O heavenly Pastour*, meaning Christ, *In the name of the Father*, &c. *Lord have mercy upon us*, &c, then in Chancel, saith the Lords Prayer, and a donology to the trinity: then the Psalms for the day, then they read Chapters: the Commandments, and *Athanasies* his Creed; and then they pray: there children are Baptized within 8 days after they are born: the Sacrament of the Lords-supper is administred but once a year a little before Easter, very solemnly all going to it with confession of sins: the bread is put in the wine and so administred: there was one endeavour to unite them to the Church of *Rome* in the year 1588. but it failed because of the many Corruptions in doctrine and discipline which they found in that Church. And at the same time, and ever since they have endeavoured to make leagues offensive and defensive. With all Christian Princes that they might be able to grapple with the great enemy of the faith, the *Turke*, to the advancement of Religion, the propagation of the Gospel, and the conversion of the world: if any object that Religion is not to be beaten into turn with the Dint of sword, yet it may be Lawfull to open the way force, for instruction, catechising, & such other gentle by means to follow after: however if we do not offend the Infidel, we may defend our selves and a preventive war, grounded upon a just fear of Invasion is Lawful. Its best being before hand with an enemy, Least the medicine come too Late for the malady: In such dangers to play an aftergame is rather a shift then a policy, especially seeing war is a tragedy, that allwayes destroyeth the Stage whereon it is acted: It

is

is the most advised way, not to waite for the enemy, but to seek him out in his own Country.

They own the Scriptures in their own Language, they leand too much on the authority of the Church: they hold a iustification by faith, working by love: they think a man cannot be assured of his salvation unill he dye, they make some difference of meats and drinckes: they hold a necessity of Baptizme as without which no salvation: they allow priests marriages: they own 3 Sacraments, the one of Baptizme, the other of the Lords Supper, the third of extreanunction: they honour the *English* way of profession: in so much as one of them said to a servant of Mr. *Fletchers*, who writ the history of *Russia*: that God had given to *England* light to day, and might give it to morrow if he please to them: for Marriage: The persons to be married are not to see one another unill they are married: Their friends must weep for them: and when they have agreed of a dowry, they are married in the Church after the manner of other Churches: but the bride and the bridegroom are to be very modest, a great while after the marriage: and the woman is to have so much dowry as she hath children: In a word they agree with us in the most weighty points of Religion: whereupon the Papist condemne them for Hæreticks and Castaways, and killing more then a third of all Christians, (as *Cain* did a quarter of mankind with a blow) with this their uncharitable Censure: but we must not with Rash judging throw all into the pit of hell, whom we see walking near the brink thereof.

CHAP.

CHAP. IV.

*The Borderers of Russia, with whom they have
most to doe in war and Peace.*

THat we may know our Interest in a good Correspondence with *Russia*; we are to understand who are the People that the *Russia* hath most to doe with in Warre and Peace; and so we may know what use we may make of them in our Dealing with Foreign Nations; In *Asia* they have to doe with the *Tartar*, In *Europe* with the *Polonian*, *Swede*, *Hungarian*, and *Dane*; where these *Russia* may do us many considerable services; being ready (as occasion serves) to use their Interest of Power over, or friendship with these Nations, to our advantage: Queen *Elizabeth* made use of the *Muscovite* to divirt the Emperor from assisting the *Spaniard*, in the Year, 1588.

CHAP. V.

Their warlike Furniture.

FOn the Incouragement of the souldiery, every Souldier in *Russia* is a Gentleman, and none gentlemen but the souldiers; and when any is of years he presents himself to the great countable who admits him to the service, and alloweth as much Land as his father had: for there is Land to maintaine the Army, & all that are not of the Army must use some vulgar

C

way

wayes to live for they are allowed no Land: the Emperour hath 15000. Horsemen for standing pensioners: and he hath 110. Noblemen who are to find amongst them 65000. horsemen with all necessaries meet for the war after the Russia manner: and these 65000 Horsemen are to march to the borders of the Chrim Tarter: whether there be warrs with the Tartars or no, and whereas it might be thought dangerous for the Noblemen to have so good forces under there Commands the *Emperor* prevents all Inconveniencies, 1. By changing their noble-men as he thinks good. 2. By making them live and depend upon him, they being such as have but a small Estate of their own. 3. And they are seldome souldiers themselves, there charge being only to see the Army Paid. If there be need of any greater number, he entertaines those men that are out of pay, and given charge to his Noble-men, that hold Lands of him to bring into the field every man a proportionable of his servants and such as till his hand. with their furniture according to the just number he intends to make, when the service being done presently lay in their weapons, and return to there servile occupations againe, of footmen he hath 12000. whereof 5000 guard *Mosco*: and two thousand attend at Court: the rest he disposeth of in his Garisons, untill he hath occasion for them in the field: And receive for Sallery 6. pound a year apeece, besides twelve measures of Rie, and Oales; They employ some 12000. strangers, *Poland*, *Dutch*, *Scotch*, &c: upon the borders of *Tartary*, and some Mercenary *Tartars* upon the borders of *Poland* and *Sweden*, thinks it pollicy so to use their service upon Contrary borders: the Generall is usually a nobleman of great extraction, but of mean parts: For in this point, they are very wary that nobility and power meet not both in one, especially if they see wisdom withall or aptnesse for policy to make up the defect in the Generall, there is some other joyned with him as Leivtenant general of farre lesse nobility, but of far more valour and experience then he in Marshall affaires: who ordereth all things that the other

Coun-

Countenanceth. And he is assisted by 4 Marshals of the field; and these four have two under each of them, that twice a week at least muster and train their severall wings or bands, and give justice for all faults & disorders Committed in the Camp: They have a great Master of the Ordinance, and a Scout-Master Generall who hath a 1000 men about him to spy abroad; all these Officers must attend the Generall every day, to put him in mind of those things that may concern their offices.

Upon any War the 4 Lords of the Chetshind send their summons to be Proclaimed in the cheif Towns of the Empire to all Gentlemens Sons to meet at the borders at such a place, and at such a time to be there Inrolled by certain Officers appointed by the high Constable.

If any man makes default, and faile at the day he is punished very severely; When the Souldiers are assembled they are divided into Bands and Companies, and those Companies are reduced into 4 legions under the four great Field Marshalls who are all under him, who hath a Commission with instructions for the present service, they are armed but slightly with Bow and Arrow and a sword, and here and there one with a Coat of Mail; the cheife Commanders go very richly with their Saddles of cloath of Gold, their Bridles fair holled and tasseled with Gold and Silke Fringe, bestued with Pearle and precious stones themselves in very fair Armour of shining steel yet covered commonly with cloath of gold, and edged round with Ermin Furre, with a steel Helmet upon their heads of great price, these swords, Bows, and arrowes by their sides, their Speares in their hands, with other Helms, and the Horsemen's Septer carried before them; the footman hath nothing but his pice in his hand, his striking hatchet at his back, and his Sword by his side; every man is to provide for himselfe sufficient for 4 moneths, and if need be to give order for more to be brought to him from his Tenant that tilleth his ground to the Campe, they are prepared to be Souldiers before hand their provision is dried bread & Bacon with other dried flesh or fish after the *Dutch* fashion. The *Russin* is not so hard to perform

forme an enterprize as he is to endure hardship, courage in execution failes him partly because of his servile condition which will not suffer any courage to grow in him, and partly for lack of due honour and regard, which he hath no great hope of what soever service or execution he doeth; their marching or leading is without order, onely they keep in 4 legions, and so thrust onward in a hurry, rushing rather to their number then their order, when they give any charge they make a great hollow and noise with Drums and Trumpets, and Swords brandished over their Heads, their Footmen (because commonly they want order in leading) are usually placed in some ambush or place of advantage, where they may most annoy the enemy with least hurt to themselves; they have Castles of boards of 3, 4, 5, 6, or 7 mile length to defend them on both sides from Arrows in which they stand and have roome enough to charge and discharge their peices and to use their other Weapons; it is close at both ends, and made with Loop-holes on either side, to lay on the nose of their peice or to push forth any other Weapon; it is taken in peices and laid on Carts, sparr'd together, and drawn by Horses that are not seem, be covered with these carriage as with a pant-house, when it is brought to the place where it is to be used which is chosen out by the walking generall, it is planted as much as the present use requireth, sometimes two miles long sometimes more, which is soon done without the help of any Carpenter, because the Timber is so framed to claspe together one peice within another, as is easily understood by those that know the manner of the *Russia* building, because of their disorder the *Russia* are observed better at defending a Town or castle, then at an open War in an open Field; it is thought there is no Prince in *Christendome* hath better provision there the *Russia* Emperour; as may partly appear by the Artillery at *Mosco*, where are of all sorts of great Ordnances, all Brasse peices very fair, to an exceeding great number; a peice of gold stamped with St. George hanging on the Sleeves is the reward of the greatest service, Colonies are filled with garrisons, the Inhabitants being permitted upon their good behaviour to till the Land for the use of his garrisons which are maintained at the charge of those Inhabitants.

The

The Emperor of *Russia* is of an *Hungarian* extraction upon this token; That the Emperour once committing some Bullion to an English Goldsmith, said to him, look to thy weights; For my *Russes* are all thieves; at which the Englishman smiling, the Emperor asked him what he smiled at, saith he, when you said the *Russe* were all thieves, you forgot that you were a *Russe*; nay, saith he, you are deceived, I am no *Russe*, but a *German*: He was Duke a great while, till about an hundred years ago he took upon him the Title of Emperor, about which time there was like to be great alteration in the *Russe* Estate because of a failure, in the time the Emperor being barren: And his brother like to be made away, his nurse who tasted his meat being poysoned, this Emperor being inaugurated by the Patriarch and Clergy with the applause of the Nobility, Gentry and people, and prayed for him solemnly, thus, Preserve, O Lord, under thy holy protection, keep him that he may do good and holy things; Let Justice shine forth in his dayes, that we may live quietly without strife and malice, this in a soft voice to which he addeth a loud, *Thou art the King of the whole world, and the saviour of our souls*, to thee the Father, Son, and Holy Ghost be all praise for ever and ever; then he puts on the Robe and the Cap in the Name of the Father, &c. then the Deacon addes many years to the Noble *Juan*, Good, Honourable, beloved of God, Duke of &c. whereto the other Priest answers, many years, many years to &c. then they thundered out many years to the Noble *Juan*, Good, Honourable, beloved of God, &c. He hath a very long Title at his Coronation of half a sheet, which all Embassadors must repeat; on a good token that when Master Flecher in Queen Eliz. time had

The name
Govern-
ment.

His Inau-
guration.

audience, he used but two or three Titles, whereupon the Chancellor never left chafing till he gave his Interpreter order to repeat the rest.

Power.

All power is in the Emperor and his Counsel, and a few of the Bishops to deceive the people who think all is well that goeth through the Bishops hands, who prescribe to the Parliament what they shall do; all places are bestowed by the Emperor himself or his chief Favourite and relation during his pleasure onely, he executes a man without judgment or trial: all pardons are from the Emperor, wherein the Empresse usually appears very much.

The Parliament.

The Parliament consists of twenty Noble men, and as many Bishops with the Emperor himself; no body representing the people who are looked upon as servants and slaves, the Clergy men being asked their opinion say; *The Emperor and his Counsel are of great wisdom, and they are not able to advise them: they can onely pray for them according to their duty and calling;* then one of them asks the Emperors mind; the Secretary tells them, that the Emperor desireth them to speak their minds freely; then without any pause they consent, and then the matter agreed on is drawn up by the Secretaries to Proclamation to be published throughout the Empire.

Policy.

The Nobility hold all they have from the Emperor, and they are kept under by emulation one of the other which the Emperor cunningly improveth to the weakening of the Nobles, who have liberty to destroy and undo one another upon private quarrels; that they may not be able to cope with the Emperor; the Emperor pretends to wafle some select men in the book of his Favourites which he shews to others, that they may

may envy and undermine them; which begets a mortal hatred betwixt them to pleasure the Emperor: he moreover removes them from Country to Country, that they may never gain any love, authority, or popularity, and their Estates are not above 2000 l. a year. There are four Provinces, and four Officers belonging to them, who attend the Emperor with all the business of those Provinces, and communicate to the Provinces by their under Officers the Emperors pleasure concerning them, these Governors hear, determine, and execute all in the Provinces by Deputies, unless there happen a hard case which they refer to the Emperor and his Council; *none governs where he is known, or where his Estate is.*

These under Officers are permitted to rack the people, because they must give their account at the end of their Office, when all that they have taken returns to the Emperors Coffers; few of them but come to the whip when they have done, under pretence of being punished.

There eight special persons of worth and valour placed in the four bordering Towns, who have large Commissions, because sometimes their occasions are such by the sudden Invasion of an Enemy, that they have not time for direction: the City of *Musko* it self is governed by the King and Council, only for buildings, impositions, keeping the streets clean, there are some inferior Gentlemen appointed with the Aldermen and Constables; the Noble men are newly raised, and the people so cowed, that there is no likelihood of alteration; besides the Emperor keeps the souldiery to himself by rendring them odious to the people, with whom therefore they never can Close against him; to

satisfie the humors of some Noble men, he maketh them Counsellors more by state then any use he makes of them; having some prividers whom he consulteth day by day about the important affairs of the Kingdom; others coming sometimes who are of greater birth then wisdom, taken in as may seem for that end, rather to furnish the place with their honours and presence then with their advice or Counsel. Of the Councell are thirty one besides two Lord Secretaries: the matters they debate are such as are brought to them by the Lords of the Provinces from their several quarters, and the chief Officers of every Office of Record, who may come into the Councell-Chamber, and inform them as occasion incident to his Office doth require; besides many private causes by way of supplication in great numbers are considered by them; they sit about seven a clock in the morning, *Mundays, Wednesdaies and Fridaies.*

7.
Revenue.

The rents are gathered by the Steward of thirty six Towns with the Crown lands and hundreds belonging to them; these rents are paid partly in money, partly in grain, partly in provision of flesh, Fish, and Fowle, the surplus whereof is sold by the Steward to the best hand, and runneth into the Emperors Treasury, which amounts to, 200000 l. a year, which pays wages and Salones, besides this there are four Officers over the Taxes, gathering first *Tagla* or an imposition on every measure of grain. 2. The *Todal* imposed on every hundred in the Realme, both which amount to 400000 l. a year, besides these are Officers for the Custom which amounts to 340000 Rubbles, or makes a yea 160000 Rubbles, being gathered by the first Table of Customers 90000 to the second, and 70000

to the third, besides this there is a Mullit arising from every Procelle in the Courts of Justice, which amounteth to 30000 Rubbels; the Remainder of Land Rents after the Army is paid amounts to 200000 l. yearly, so that there comes a million of mony clear, all charges paid to the Treasury in the Castle of *Musko*, where the Emperors Mony, Plate, Jewels, Scepter, and bags sealed with the Emperors seal; besides forces and other commodities, with confiscation, that amounts to 500000 l. more, which are so great that a late Emperor would say, *That people were like his Beard, the oftner shaven the thicker it grew, or like sheep that must be shorn once a year at least, to keep them from being overladen with their wool.*

1. These Emperors wink at the Officers exaction, until their time is expired that they may have it; they suck the people, and the Emperor sucks them, and seems to make them a publick example (saying, *These good people are they that would eat you like bread*) that they might confiscate their goods, which a late Emperor did, calling an executioner, and bidding him kill a goose, and he cut off the mans legs first, then his arms, then his head, and there (said the Emperor) is a goose ready dressed.

8.
Policy to
improve
the Reve-
nue.

2. They make a shew of want, as this Emperors Father did, who being left very rich, coined his plate and sold it, that he might seem to want mony, whereupon presently out comes a Tax.

3. They encourage the subject to bestow upon Monasteries all their wealth which they take upon occasion without any noisse: this I was told, that *Juan Vastlowick*, resigned his Kingdom to one, whom he advised to recal all Charters given to Monasteries, which done he assumed the Government as if he disliked this, and was content to renew their Charters, reserving to himself as much of their Lands as himself thought good, whereby he got 30 millions of mony.

4. They send Messengers to engage the Commodities of the Provinces, buying them at small Rates, and selling them at what they list. And so for forreign Commodities, as I remember in the year 1645. when I traded in *Balsick* Sea: and they make a Monopoly of the Commodities he

receives for Rent or Custome, and to enhance the price of them : And none must sell their Commodities till the Emperors be all sold.

5. He sets up Drinking-hours, when men spend all their Estates, from which none may be called away, lest they hinder the Emperours Revenue, where they lay up some twenty pound a man, and vow not to brave the Por, until they have spent all, as they say, *for the honour of the Emperour.*

6. A Nobleman feigns himself robbed, and the City is fined 10000 Rubbles for its misgovernment.

7. They send for what cannot be had, as for a peck of Flies to *Musco*, and then fine the Inhabitants because they do not what cannot be done.

8. One Emperor fined his Noblemen 30000 Rubbles because he missed his hour one morning. Their exactions are so great, that I have seen sometimes when they have laid open their Commodities for a liking, to look still behind and about them, whereof asking the cause, I found it to be this, That they doubted some of the Emperors Officers might be in company, and so a traine were laid upon them to prey upon their commodities : Therefore they drink and idle away the time (though able enough to endure labour) caring for no more then from hand to mouth. Yet there are some Merchants very rich there, dwelling far from Court, and worth 300000 Rubbles a piece, as I knew their brethren of late. The people are ignorant, that they may be more fit to be Slaves : Therefore in the year 1643 they removed all strangers to the borders, lest they should teach the people better Manners, Quallities, and more Wit. And none is to aspire higher then his Fathers Trade.

Justice.

9. If any one is injured, he makes his supplication either to the Court of Aldermen, or the other two Courts, and thence hath a Writ for the other, who appears and pleads his own Cause, and if Evidence cast him either by Witneses, or by the Plaintiffs kissing the Cross upon the matter, he is sent to the Serjeant, who irons him and cudgels him on the shins from Eight till Eleven every day, till he payes the money. Their Bills are these; *I William White owe Juan Vasilevel Go-*

doner

donor 100. Rubbels of going money of Muske without Interest, until the Conneel Sunday: and if not paid then, I must pay five for six: upon this are witnesses Gab. Jacovile sin, An. 1662. This Bill have I written William White with my name to it. In criminal affairs they examine by tortures. and refer the Party to King and Council.

10. They rise about four in the morning, and worship, Their pri- and then to businels, and then to their wives, and then to vate beha- Dinner, where their food is rather plentiful then curious, viours, with which they drink plentifully, after which they sleep two hours daily, which would kill them, but that they sweat it out in hot Baths: out of which they can go to the cold air, yea and water too in the winter time. They allow their women money for paint: They wear Caps close to their heads, and are shaven, unless they be in displeasure with the Emperour when they let their hair grow: Over the Cap he weareth a wide Cap of black Furre, with a long Bonnet within it. About their necks, Collours beset with Pearls and precious stones. Next over his shirt, (which is curiously wrought, because he stripeth himself in the Summer time) is a light garment of Silk made down to the knees, buttoned before, and then a close Coat buttoned, and girt with a Persian Girdle, whereat he hangs his knives and spoons: over which he weareth a loose Garment of rich silk, furred and faced about with gold lace: Their noice is infinite, who cry, *Give me and kill me.*

The Russe maketh small regard of his word, neither believeth what another speaks, nor speaketh any thing worthy to be believed: however the English have upon the account of Trade in the Baltick Sea, and Interest in the Northren parts, made very much of their Embassadors here three times.

11. I. In Queen Elizabeths times, Anno 1589. who sent the Master of the Ceremoney with the Lord Treasurer, the Lord Chamberlain with a great Court-train to meet him at the Tower, from whence he was conducted by the Aldermen in Scarlet, with the severall Companies in chains through the City to Durham-house, where they were entertained at the

Russian
Embassy
ent. in C
Elizabeth...

By K. J.

Queens

Queens charge, until they were conducted by the Earl of *Essex* to audience, which they did in all humble manner, as they said to the *second maid in the world*.

II. In King *James* time, *Novemb. 5. 1617.* a *Russian* Embassadour with his Assistant the Councellour of *Muscovy*, was received at *Tower-Wharf* by the Lord *Compton*, having been first received at *Gravesend* by Mr. *Richard Smith* chief of the *Muscovy* Company: They were welcomed at Landing with the Ordnances of the *Tower* and *Ships*, and were met on *Tower-hill* by the Aldermen in *Scarlet*, and other *Citizens* in *velvet Coats* and *Chains* of gold, and thence conducted to his house in *Bishopgate-street*, whence they presented the King and Queen with 4000 l. sterling in gifts.

K. C. 2d. Now he hath been entertained in like manner attended by 12000 men in arms, and hath had audience, and presented the king with Cordage, Furs, Beasts and Birds, worth 1500 l. intending to treat with his Majesty about the Northern Affairs of Trade, Peace and War.

His Majesty sent the Master of the Ceremonies, with many Coaches more of the Nobility to conduct him to the City, whence he was met by the Aldermen and Citizens on horse-back with Trumpets: the City all along being lined with 25000 Trained-band and Auxillaries: and he was conducted to *Torke-house*, whence he was conducted to Audience, *Decem. 1. 1662.* which he made in very humble manner, stooping and knocking his forehead against the ground before the King, who sat in great State, environed with the Nobility, as the Sun with stars: the Glory of his Friends, the envy of his foes, and the wonder of the world.

FINIS.